Multi-Sector Needs Assessment: Food Security
## Libya, September 2017

Context & Methodology

Libya has experienced several waves of conflict since 2011, renewed nationwide in 2014 and periodically in several regions, that affected millions of people, both displaced and non-displaced. In response to a lack of recent data on the humanitarian situation in Libya, REACH conducted two rounds of multi-sector data collection in June and August to provide timely information on the needs and vulnerabilities of affected populations. A total of 2,978 household (HH) surveys were completed across 8 Libyan mantikas,[1] chosen to cover major population centres and areas of displacement. The sampling produced statistically generalisable results for all assessed displacement categories, as well as for 7 assessed mantikas and the city of Derna, with a confidence level of 95% and a margin of error of 10% (unless stated otherwise). Findings have been disaggregated by displacement status and/or by mantika where the differences in responses among groups were significant.

Assessed Mantikas

- ● Assessed city
- ■ Assessed mantikas
- □ Unassessed mantikas
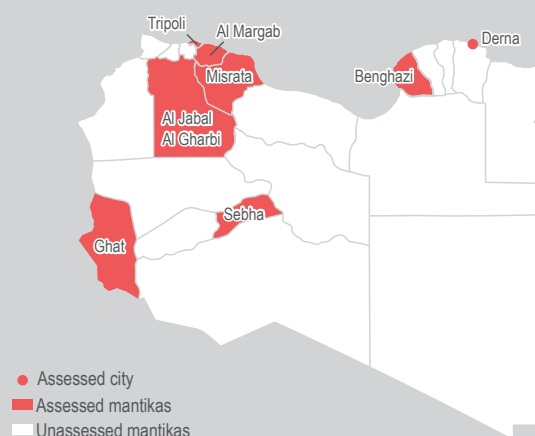
☙ Food Consumption Score (FCS)

Average Food Consumption Score (FCS)[2] per population group:

	Average FCS	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
Overall	77.7	1.0%	4.0%	95.0%
Non-displaced	78.0	0.8%	3.8%	95.4%
IDPs	66.0	7.9%	12.5%	79.5%
Returnees	80.2	1.3%	1.9%	96.8%

Average Food Consumption Score (FCS)[2] per mantika:

	Average FCS	Poor	Borderline	Acceptable
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	94.8	0.6%	0.1%	99.3%
Al Margab	77.1	0.0%	1.1%	98.9%
Benghazi	83.5	1.0%	3.1%	95.9%
Derna	85.7	1.7%	1.7%	96.6%
Ghat	77.3	1.5%	5.2%	93.3%
Misrata	90.0	0.0%	0.0%	99.9%
Sebha	86.5	1.1%	1.1%	97.8%
Tripoli	61.3	2.0%	9.2%	88.8%

Average number of times per week HHs consumed each of the following food groups:

Meat, poultry, fish, seafood, eggs	**6.5**	Oil, butter, other fats	**4.0**
Bread, cereal, pasta, rice, potatoes	**5.6**	Sugar, honey, jam	**3.6**
Vegetables	**5.1**	Beans, pulses, nuts, lentils	**3.2**
Dairy	**5.0**	Fruit	**2.4**

☙ Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)

Average Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)[3] per population group:

	Average rCSI	Low use of coping strategies (0-3)	Medium use of coping strategies (4-9)	High use of coping strategies (10+)
Overall	4.9	64.1%	19.6%	16.3%
Non-displaced	4.7	65.3%	19.2%	15.5%
IDPs	7.3	52.4%	22.3%	25.3%
Returnees	7.3	44.9%	27.0%	28.1%

Average Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI)[3] per mantika:

	Average rCSI	Low use of coping strategies (0-3)	Medium use of coping strategies (4-9)	High use of coping strategies (10+)
Al Jabal Al Gharbi	3.9	91.1%	5.5%	3.4%
Al Margab	7.4	62.8%	18.3%	18.9%
Benghazi	7.2	46.5%	30.8%	22.7%
Derna	8.3	51.3%	26.4%	22.3%
Ghat	6.2	55.2%	18.2%	26.6%
Misrata	6.6	68.3%	21.1%	10.6%
Sebha	3.7	68.8%	25.2%	6.0%
Tripoli	4.7	67.1%	14.7%	18.2%

[2] The FCS is a composite indicator score based on dietary frequency, food frequency and relative nutrition importance of different food groups and their consumption by assessed population groups. Ranging from 0 to 112, the FCS will be 'poor' for a score of 28 and less, 'borderline' for a score of 42 or less, and 'acceptable' above a score of 42.

[3] The reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) is often used as a proxy indicator for household food insecurity. rCSI represents the sum of the frequency of each strategy weighted by each strategy's severity. Higher rCSI indicates a worse food security situation and vice versa, with a score from 0 to 56.

[1] Libya is divided into four types of administrative areas: 3 *regions* (admin level 1), 22 *mantikas* or districts (admin level 2), 100 *baladiyas* or municipalities (admin level 3), and *muhallas,* which are similar to neighbourhoods or villages (admin level 4).

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Average number of times per week HHs engaged in each of the following food-related coping strategies:

Procuring less expensive or less favourable foods	**2.0**
Reducing the number of meals per day	**0.9**
Reducing adults' share of food to allow children to eat	**0.8**
Shrinking the size of meals	**0.3**
Borrowing food from friends or relatives	**0.1**

🥣 Food Sources and Prices

Top 3 reported ways of accessing food per population group[4]:

	Non-displaced	IDPs	Returnees
Purchased with cash	95.8%	85.7%	92.2%
Purchased on credit	25.5%	36.9%	16.1%
Own production	19.6%	18.3%	8.0%

% of HHs reporting price changes for key food items in the last 30 days:

	Increase	No change	Decrease
Chicken	84.4%	7.4%	8.2%
Chickpeas	62.2%	20.9%	17.3%
Cooking oil	67.5%	25.8%	6.7%
Eggs	71.6%	9.9%	18.5%
Flour	62.1%	32.4%	5.5%
Pasta	66.2%	26.1%	7.8%
Rice	70.3%	25.5%	4.2%
Sugar	67.7%	27.2%	5.1%
Tomato paste	63.0%	28.6%	8.4%

[4] Respondents could choose up to 3 answers.

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